

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hisashi Umeda
 Serial No.: 10/798,102
 Conf. No.: 5914
 Filed: 03/11/2004
 For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM,
 MAGNETIC STORAGE APPARATUS
 AND RECORDING METHOD
 Art Unit: 1773
 Examiner: Rickman, Holly C.



I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

21 Sept 06 *[Signature]*
 Date Registration No. 29,367
 Attorney for Applicant(s)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the C.F.R. §1.97(b) time period, but before the mail date of a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance (whichever occurs first), with either:

- (a) a statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e); or
- (b) the \$180.00 fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

(X) Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e):

(X) The enclosed references were cited in a Communication issued by Japanese Patent Office and mailed on September 5, 2006 (copy enclosed). Applicant(s) hereby certify that each item of information cited on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

() Applicant(s) hereby certify that no item of information cited on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing below after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information cited on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

300 South Wacker Drive – Suite 2500
 Chicago, Illinois 60606
 Telephone: (312) 360-0080
 Facsimile: (312) 360-9315
 Customer Number 24978

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By: *[Signature]*

Patrick G. Burns, Reg. No. 29,367

Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce
(Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office

Attorney Docket No.: 0941.70006

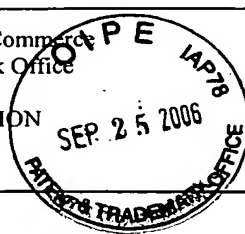
Serial No.: 10/798,102

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant: Hisashi Umeda

Filing Date: 3-11-04

Group: 1773



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	2003-0999911	Apr. 4, 2003	Japan			Abs.	
	2002-352407	Dec. 6, 2002	Japan			Abs.	
	2001-056921	Feb. 27, 2001	Japan			Abs.	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.